ning Star, with the Sunday morning edi-livered by carriers within the city at 50 month; without the Sunday morning edi-cents per month.

By mail, postage prepaid:
Daily, Sunday included, one month, 60 cents.
Daily, Sunday excepted; one month, 50 cents.
Saturday Star, one year, \$1.00.
Sunday Star, one year, \$1.50.

REPLY HAS BEEN SENT

Russia's Attitude Announced to Washington.

NO DELAY IS INTENDED

IT WILL FULLY RESPOND TO THE ROOSEVELT MESSAGE.

Not the Slightest Warrant for Intimations of Ulterior Motives in Seeking Japan's Terms.

ST. PETERSBURG, June 12-4:30 p.m.-Russia's official reply is now on its way to Washington. Foreign Minister Lamsdorff transmitted it to Ambassador Meyer and later the ambassador had an interview with the foreign minister at the foreign office.

All the attempts to create an impression that there is the slightest hitch in the preliminary negotiations are absolutely without shadow of foundation. Foreign Minister Lamsdorff has formally notified several of the continental powers that a meeting of plenipotentiaries to see whether it is possible to agree to terms of peace is assured.

Now that Russia has received formal notification that Japan has sent an official and favorable reply to President Roosevelt, the Russian official reply will be forwarded and the Associated Press feels it is in a position to state positively that the reply will fully respond to the President's message.

There does not seem to be the slightest warrant for the gratuitous idea that some correspondents are putting out that Russia is only desirous of ascertaining the Japanese conditions, and at the same time gain a better position for her army in Manchu-

M. Witte's Proposed Trip.

M. Witte, president of the committee of ministers, will leave St. Petersburg for abroad in two weeks. This very significant announcement is coupled with the statement that he is going "on public business." His visit was instantly associated with the peace negotiations, and it is possible that Emperor Nicholas has decided if a reasonable basis for negotiations is offered by Japan to make use of the services of the ablest and strongest personality in the em-

Remarkable Editorial.

It being Monday the papers print only telegrams today, but the Novoe Vremya makes room for a remarkable editorial, which may be inspired, depreciating optimism among the diplomatists at the present moment "unless Japan, under the slogan of 'Asia for the Asiatics,' should reco Russia in her origin, history and destiny is an Asiatic as well as a European power and be ready to conclude not peace, but an alliance." The Novoe Vremya adds that it has always "preached the doctrine that Russia is the bulwark of Europe against the

yellow peril."
The editorial attracted instant attention. The paper dwells on the idea that Russia, barred from the west and following inexorable laws, must spread eastward to reach her natural boundaries and warm water; refers to the ease of her conquests on her right flank over the tribes of Turkestan and Central Asia, and concludes: "If Japan can only recognize that Rus-sia must remain an Asiatic power as well

as herself, a durable and permanent peace The reformers breathed a sigh of relief over the announcement in the Gazette that

M. Pobedonestseff, procurator general of the holy synod, has sufficiently recovered his health to go abroad and try a course of

The warring countries both having formally agreed to try to conclude peace, the next step, it is explained here, will be the first direct exchange, in which Japan is expected to take the initiative by indicating, doubtless through an intermediary at Washington, her views as to the time and place of the meeting. Russia will offer no bjections to any reasonable suggestion in this respect, being prepared to at once issue instructions to her preliminary plenipotentlary, whose personality for the moment depends upon the place Japan names.

The statement is now made that M. Witte is going to Berlin to meet Prince Arisugawa, who represented the Japanese empe-ror at the wedding of Crown Prince Frederick William, but no confirmation of this can be obtained. In the public mind M. Witte stands out prominently as the one peace negotiations, but an intimate friend of the Russian statesman assures the Assoclated Press that he knows M. Witte has not been approached on the subject. doubtedly court influence would be solid against his selection. M. Witte is thoroughly familiar with the far eastern ques-

understands the Japanese position and fully realized before the war that the aggressive policy being pursued under the lead of Viceroy Alexief and M. Bezobrazoff, president of the Yalu Timber Company, and the coterie of adventurers connected with them would drive Japan to take up the sword. At one time he talked over the situation with the Marquis Ito.

Practically it was M. Witte's disapproval of the far eastern policy and the creation of a viceroyalty in the far east which caused his downfall as minister of finance, During his trip to Port Arthur in 1903 M. Witte was invited by the Japanese government to visit Japan.

The Japanese therefore probably would welcome his selection to conduct the pre-liminaries in behalf of Russia, knowing that they would be dealing with the Russlan statesman who best understands situation and who is most likely to reach an agreement mutually advantageous.

Last summer while M. Witte was Chancellor von Buelow's guest at Norderney, Hanover, he is said to have seen M. Kurino, former Japanese minister at St. Petersburg, and it is added they both agreed that the war should be succeeded not by peace but by an alliance.

FOR LENIENT TERMS.

but by an alliance.

London to Urge Japan to Minimize Its Demands.

LONDON, June 12 .- In the absence of the cabinet ministers and ambassadors at country places for the Whitsuntide holidays nothing further was ascertainable here today respecting British action in support of President Roosevelt's efforts to bring of President Rooseveit's efforts to bring and down the river rescuing persons who about peace negotiations between Russia escaped to points above the water line. The and Japan.

It is understood that besides cordially supporting the steps taken by the President to bring the belligerents together the British government is urging its ally to submit the most lenient terms which Japan con-siders possible under the circumstances. The foreign office declined to make a statement in the absence of Foreign Secretary Lansdowne, but probably the house of com-mons on reassembling will be informed of the action taken by this government.

Russian Bourse Prices Strong.

ST. PETERSBURG, June 12.-Prices or the bourse today were strong and trading was active on the peace prospects. Imperial fours rose a full point.

e Evening Star.



No. 16,331.

WASHINGTON, D. C., MONDAY, JUNE 12, 1905-SIXTEEN PAGES.

CHICAGO STRIKE

TWO CENTS.

INTERNATIONAL CHESS TOURNEY

Only Fourteen Players Now Left in the Contest.

OSTEND, Belgium, June 12.-When the

competitors in the international chess tour-

nament assembled at the Kursaal today in

readiness to begin the first round the an-

nouncement was made that Von Bardeleben

of Berlin had withdrawn, leaving but four-

teen players in the contest. The pairing for the first round today is as follows:

Blackburne vs. Taubenhaus, Janowsky vs. Marcezy, Marce vs. Wolf, Burn vs. Teichmahn, Tarrassch vs. Schlechter, Mar-

shall vs. Leonhardt and Tschigorin vs. Al-

MURDERER KILLS HIMSELF.

Found Dead in Cell With Many Self-

Inflicted Wounds.

PHILADELPHIA, June 12.-With a large

tablespoon as a weapon, Michael Czirilla,

aged thirty-four years, whose trial for

homicide was to begin today, hacked him-

self to pieces in his cell at the county prison. The prisoner sharpened the spoon

on the wall of his cell and then tried to

kill himself by cutting his throat. He gash-

ed himself fearfully, but, not satisfied with

this, he severed the arteries in both wrists

THE STRIKE AT SAGINAW.

Street Cars Run Today Under Police

Guard.

SAGINAW, Mich., June 12.-Street cars

are being run today both in this city and

Bay City under police protection. There

was no resumption of violence during the

morning in either city. Tonight the street railway company will, for the first time since the strike began, run cars after night-fall.

In Bay City practically all the police force is guarding the cars.

MAJOR BUSH DEAD.

Was Member of the Artillery Corps,

U. S. A.—Due to Apoplexy.

FORT WARREN, Mass., June 12 .- The

death of Maj. James C. Bush, Artillery

Corps, United States army, occurred here

last night. It was due to apoplexy, he hav-

ing sustained two attacks, one on May 17,

since which time he had been confined to

his bed, and the second at 1:10 p.m. Sat-

Maj. Bush was born in Connecticut, Octo-

ber 31, 1850. He entered the United States

Military Academy July 1, 1871. He was

graduated June 16, 1875, and was commis-

sioned a second lieutenant in the 5th Ar-

tellery, from which rank he rose to that

tillery school.
While he was in the Philippine service, and

after his return, his health became impair-

ed, and although urged to seek rest from

his duties, he bravely continued his com-mand at this post.

He is survived by a wife and daughter, Mrs. Weston T. Chamberlain, wife of Capt. W. T. Chamberlain, Medical Corps. United

NEGRO PASTOR ARRESTED.

Held for Alleged Larceny of Church

Funds in Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, June 12.-The colored

congregation of the White Rock Baptist

Church, at 46th street and Fairmount ave-

nue, had their pastor, the Rev. Pinkey P.

Samuels, arrested this morning. They

caused him to be held in \$600 ball for court

by Magistrate Boyle in the 61st and Thomp-

son streets station. Larceny of church

funds is the technical charge against the

It is based on his startling innovation of

making the church collections in person, armed with a club. The club he kept be-

side him during his sermons, and he was

arrested yesterday after a stormy meeting

in which he is alleged to have threatened to brain several malcontents, who demanded

PRINCETON'S CLASS DAY.

Interesting Annual Exercises Held To-

day-Statistics.

PRINCETON, N. J., June 12.-This was

class day at Princeton. The class of 1905,

the faculty in brilliant academic robes

marched to Alexander Hall, where the

The salutatory was delivered by H. Zaver

Jones of East Orange, and the class ora-

tion by J. L. Semple of Princeton, N. J.

C. Ames Brooks of Plainfield, N. J., read

the class poem. From Alexander Hall the

class marched to the front of Nassau Hall,

where the class ivy was planted. C. H. Walcott of Evanston, Ill., delivered the ivy

The cannon exercises were held about the old revolution cannon in the college quad-

rangle. Here the class history was read by J. D. Voorhees of Camden, N. J., and

the presentation oration was delivered by K. R. McAlpin of New York city. K. S.

Clark of Pittsburg read the class prophecy. Harold Short of St. Louis then delivered the president's address, and F. B. St. John

of Hackensack, N. J., called the class roll. The class ode, written by Howard Walter

of New Britain, Conn., with music by K. S. Clark, was sung in closing.

The class day book, containing all the class statistics, was issued today. There are 283 men in the class, the oldest of whom is twenty-nine years and the youngest nine-

teen years. The average age at graduation is twenty-two years. The average expendi-

ture of the class is \$764 per man in freshman year, \$798 in sophomore year, \$864 in junior and \$941 in senior years.

WAYLAID AND MURDERED.

Pennsylvanian Killed at Lonely Spot

on Road-No Clues.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., June 12.-Michael

Dolan of Simpson was waylaid and mur-

JEFF DAVIS A CANDIDATE.

Formally Opens Canvass for Senator-

ship From Arkansas July 4.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., June 12.-Governor Jeff

Davis formally opens his campaign for the

United States senatorship at Conway, Ark.,

on July 4, and he has asked Senator Berry

Special Dispatch to The Star.

battered in with clubs.

Special Dispatch to The Star.

States army, at Corregidor, P. I.

Special Dispatch to The Star.

Rev. Mr. Samuels.

his resignation.

Special Dispatch to The Star.

opening exercises were held.

urday, from which he never rallied.

Special Dispatch to The Star.

TWO BOMBS FOUND.

Discovered on Public School Premises in Pittsburg.

PITTSBURG, Pa., June 12.-Two bombs were found today on the premises of the Springfield public school in this city by Lewis Baker, the janitor. Both were made of zinc and in the interior were the usual gun cotton, metal tube and powder.

They were about two inches in diameter, several inches long and fitted with a brass cap. Both are now in possession of the authorities. No reason can be given for the selection of the school as the object of any attempted outrage. There are a number of Russian families in the vicinity of the school, many of whom, it is said, are, so far as Russia is concerned, intensely anarchistic. In view of this, the police are conducting their investigation among the for eigners.

GUATEMALAN RENDEZVOUS.

Barillas and Revolutionists Gathering at San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., June 12.-Manuel Dieguez, a Guatemala lawyer and revolutionary candidate, put forward by Barillas, ex-president of Guatemala, for the presidency of the Central American republic, is said to be hurrying to San Francisco-from southern Mexico to join Barillas and party

Members of the local Guatemala colony believe that Barillas and his adherents have decided upon this city as a rendezvous pending developments that may give them an opportunity to filibuster against

the administration of President Calvera.

The Call says today that Barillas has announced to several friends that he will lead a revolutionary party against Calvera, and that he has simply delayed action until he can recuperate his failing health, which, he says, is one of his reasons for coming to San Francisco.

CHANGES AT PARIS.

Expected to Result From Delcasse's Resignation-Rouvier Undecided.

PARIS, June 12, 1:40 p.m.-It is expected that several diplomatic and ministerial changes resulting from the resignation of M. Delcasse, until recently foreign minister, will be settled at tomorrow's meeting of the cabinet. Leon Bourgeois probably will succeed M. Bihourd as ambassador at Berlin, thus inaugurating a new, conciliatory policy concerning Morocco.

Premier Rouvier still is undecided about retaining the portfolio of foreign affairs, with the expectation that M. de Freycinet or M. Constans, ambassador to Turkey, will enter the foreign office if M. Rouvier con-

enter the foreign office if M. Rouvier concludes to retain the finance portfolio.

There is reason to believe that the conferences between Prince von Radolin, the German ambassador to France, and Premier Rouvier have shown that Germany does not make an international conference on Morocco sine qua non. This permits of the consideration of other direct means of an adjustment between France. an adjustment between France and Ger-

STATE LAW SUSTAINED.

Shooting Live Pigeons as Test for Marksmanship Prohibited.

TRENTON, N. J., June 12.-The supreme court today in a decision rendered by Justice Fort, sustained the constitutionality of the law yhich prohibits the shooting of live pigeons as a test of marksmanship. The case was before the court on review of the conviction of Charles W. Davis in the Burlington county court for violating the law. Davis is a member of the Riverton Gun Club, and his violation of the law was planned for the purpose of providing a test case. The supreme court holds that the law is proper exercise of the police powers of the state.

ALLEGED SHIPBUILDING FRAUDS. Revealed at Rome in Connection With New Warships.

Special Cablegram to The Star.

MILAN. June 12.-The Rome correspondent of Secolo says that the labors of the commission of inquiry into shipbuilding have resulted in the revelation of frauds in the construction of the battleship Emmanuele Filiberto, battleship Regina Margherita, battleship Regina Elena and other ships.

Special charges are made against the Terni steel works. Sham firing tests of the armor plates and similar offences are alleged, and there are hints of yet graver scandals. The commission draws the con-clusion that the ships would collapse in the moment of action.

THE GAYNOR-GREENE CASE. Counsel Asks Permission to Furnish Security for Appeal.

MONTREAL, June 12 .- T. Chase Casgrain, counsel for John F. Gaynor and B. D. Greene, has petitioned Judge Hall in chambers to be allowed to furnish security for their appeal to the supreme court of Canada from the decision of the king's bench maintaining the judgment of Judge Davidson, who declared that Extradition Commissioner Lafontaine had jurisdiction writ of prohibition taken against the commissioner by counsel for the accused.

Judge Hall will render judgment tomor-

LOWLANDS SUBMERGED.

Much Damage Reported by Overflow of the Mississippi.

HANNIBAL, Mo., June 12 .- The flooded Mississippi river has spread over all the unprotected lowlands and is from five to eight miles wide between here and Keokuk. Iowa. Near Alexandria, Mo., Riley Smallwood, a farmer, was drowned and seven other persons are reported missing.

Many dead bodies of horses, mules and cattle are floating past Hannibal, and from Alexandria, Canton, Memphis, West Quincy and Keokuk reports have been received of a general loss of live stock.

The river continues to rise here at the rate of three inches an hour. An army of men is at work in the lower portion of Hannibal, endeavoring to save property. The railroad yards and factory district are inundated.

All available boats are making trips up property loss already suffered is estimated at several million dollars.

Ocean Steamer Reported. NEW YORK, June 12.-Steamer Rotter-

dam, from Rotterdam, reported by wireless telegraph fifteen miles east of the Nantucket lightship at 6:30 a.m. today. The steamer will probably dock about 8 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Glass Plant Burned.

KOKOMO, Ind., June 12.-The Jenkins the National Flint Glass Company, was destroyed by fire today. Loss \$125,000. The plant will be rebuilt.

Bucall, Italian, age forty-one, laborer, Panama, sickened May 24; Francisco Madeo, Italian, age fifty, laborer, Panama, sickened June 4." glass factory, which is the local plant of

'RUSSQ-JAP WAR'

PEACE: "AM I EXPECTED TO ATTEND TO ALL THIS BUSINESS AT ONCE?"

ing the New Government

of Norway.

Mr. Grip, the minister of Sweden and

Norway to the United States, called at the

State Department this morning to take

eave of the officials before sailing from

New York tomorrow to his home in Norway

on leave of absence. He says he has not been

officially advised of the disunion of Sweden

and Norway nor of any change in his

official status as the diplomatic representa

tve of both countries. Although a natve of

Norway, Mr. Grip has not been identified with the separation movement, nor has he

telt called on to resign his diplomatic office. Whatever his plans are, he has kept them

entirely to himself, and it is believed that

ne desires to consult his friends at home

before deciding as to his future course Although he has studiously refrained from

committing himself, there is an impression

pendent government of Norway if it can be successfully established. At any rate he

s not likely to return to Washington in

Recognition of Norway.

It is said at the State Department that

no official information has been received

there regarding the separation of Sweden

and Norway, and that consequently there

has been no occasion to consider the ques-

tion of the recognition of the new govern

ment of Norway. It is expected, however, that this question will be shortly presented

to President Roosevelt. In that event ac

tion will be taken without unnecessary de

lay. Although somewhat premature to dis

cuss the question, there is reason for the

belief that the new government of Norway

stands an excellent chance of recognition by the United States whenever it can sat-

ment of Sweden and Norway, but it is sup posed that these officials are awaiting fur

accredited as United States minister to Sweden and Norway, and Mr. E. L. Adams

of New York is secretary of legation and consul general. The legation is in Stolk-

for their failure to report the action of the storthing at Christiana, in declaring the union with Sweden at an end. It is

not likely that the Swedish authorities

would communicate any information on the subject, and the United States officials at

the Swedish capital could hardly conside

information from any other source official.

Minister Grip informed Assistant Secretary Loomis that his government has sent

Sweden, and that fact may accoun

his present official capacity.

that he will cast his lot wth the new inde

AGAINST CHICAGO HOUSES.

June grand jury, which convened today and who will investigate the teamsters' strike, were prepared by State's Atto and Assistant State's Attorney Fake to listen to a sensational expose concerning the

evidence of efforts to curb competition and the labor leaders.

moil are in complete control. Let me as-sure you, however, that your lives and property are perfectly safe.
"In the streets you may see a wagon with a sign on it or a policeman rising on the seat, but that is not a sign of rioting or trouble; they are there to insure peace and to protect property which has a perfect right on the streets; and, gentlemen,

let me assure you that as long as I am mayor of Chicago peace will be preserved to the very last limit of our resources, and when those fail we will call upon powers within our limits, but at the present time Hearing reports of various committees occupied much of today's session of the

Chairman Morton's Return to New York Next Wednesday.

will not return to New York until Wednes-

It is expected that the work of readust ment of the methods and conduct of the society's management will then be resumed. Thomas F. Ryan in response to a request for further details concerning the pur-chase of the Hyde stock gave out the fol-

State Superintendent of Insurance Hen-dricks has finished his investigation of the Equitable Life Assurance Society's affairs. Mr. Hendricks was not in town today.

NO SHOW FOR CORDOVA.

Court Dismissed Motion for Writ of Error in His Case.

TRENTON, N. J., June 12.-Justices Dixon and Swayze today, on motion of Prosecutor Berdine of Middlesex county, formally dismissed the writ of error which was applied for by counsel for Rev. J. Frank Cordova of South River, immediate-

ly upon his conviction for the abandonment of his wife.

Cordova is the minister who eloped with Miss Julia Bowne. He is now serving four years in the state prison.

Yellow Fever on the Isthmus. The Secretary of War has received the following cablegram from Gov. Magoon, at Panama, reporting three new cases of yellow fever: "James B. Huff, American, age thirty-seven, clerk quartermaster's department, Panama, sickened June 4; Ricardo

LATEST STRIKE PHASE MINISTER GRIP LEAVES MAN'S BODY FOUND

HOME TOMORROW.

CHICAGO, June 12.-Members of the Possibility of This Country Recognizactions of several labor leaders.

It is reported that the investigators working under the direction of Mr. Fake and a police inspector have gathered evidence of blackmailing plots against business houses, o' alleged damaging admissions made by

Team Owners' Convention. CHICAGO, June 12.-The third annual convention of the team owners of America began here today. Mayor Edward F. Dunne gave the address of welcome. Referring to the teamsters' strike, he said: No doubt a great many of you gentlemen have read that the streets of our city are running with blood, and that rlot and tur-

there is no necessity to call upon those

THE EQUITABLE CASE.

NEW YORK, June 12.-Paul Morton, the newly elected chairman of the board of directors of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, who went to Washington last night,

lowing statement:
"The purchase of the stock was absolute

"The purchase of the stock was absolute and free from any condition or commitment as to future action.

"The general conditions of the trusteeship of the stock have already been announced in the letter to Mr. Cleveland.

"The deed of trust is now being prepared and will be made public in due course."

When the deed of trust will disclose the personnel of the association of which Mr. Ryan is the head could not be ascertained today.

There was no meeting of the Equitable trustees today, but a meeting will be held as soon as it is convenient for Former President Grover Cleveland to be present.

Vice President Gage E. Tarbell said that there would be no meeting of the agents of the Equitable Society in this city today.

The Sunday Star Continues to Gain in Classified Advertising.

There were over 26 columns of classified advertisements in yesterday's Star, a considerable gain over the Sunday before. This is several hundred more classified advertisements than in either of the other local Sunday papers.

The Sunday Star Continues to Lead in Circulation.

The Sunday Star has a much larger bona fide paid circulation in the District of Columbia than any other Sunday paper, and, it is believed, more than double the circulation of one of its Sunday contempo-

ALLEGED BLACKMAILING PLOTS WILL SAIL FROM NEW YORK FOR D. W. ROSS, KILLED TWO YEARS AGO, HAD SONS IN WASHINGTON.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 12 .- A two years' search for D. W. Ross, a prominent contractor of this city, who vanished in August, ended at the coroner's office George H. Harris identified the photograph and description of an "unidentified man" killed by a street car in September, 1903, as that of the father of Dr. Frank C. Ross, the astronomer, now assistant director at Carnegle Institute, Washington, D. C., and Walter Ross, in the government service.

The body, which has lain all the time in the potter's field, will be exhumed and given fitting burlal by the sons.

One of the sons, Mr. Walter Ross, an employe of the coast and geodetic survey, was shown the above dispatch by a Star reporter this afternoon.

"This is the first definite information I have received about my father," he said, "although we have had detectives employed on the case for five or six months. we heard of the street car accident we suspected that the man killed was our parent, but it has only been recently that we have received tangible testimony about the mat-

Mr. Ross said his father was born in Rosshire, Scotland, about sixty-five years ago, and has been missing since 1903, v he was last heard from by his sons. had lived in California since 1863, having been quite prominent there. He was at one time the owner of a large planing mill, and as a building contractor constructed some of the handsomest residences in San Francisco. Some time ago he was reputed to be quite wealthy. The widow is living at Los Angeles, Cal., and the only surviving children are Dr. Frank C. Ross, whose office is with Prof. Newcomb at 1627 F street, and Mr. Walter Ross of the coast and geodetic survey.

Dr. Ross stated to a Star reporter this afternoon that he would go to San Francisco to arrange for the funeral, and that the remains would be taken to his father's home, in Nova Scotia for burial.

STATISTICIAN HYDE RECALLED.

isfy the latter that a proper government has been established independent of Sweden, of a stable and permanent character. Some surprise is expressed at the lack of information from United States diplomatic and consular officers accredited to the government of Sweden and Norway but it is supported. Will Remain Here Until the Cotton Investigation is Over. Nothing could better serve to illustrate her developments before reporting to the department what has already occurred. Mr. Charles H. Graves of Minnesota is

the growing seriousness of the cotton crop report scandal and the importance of the possible discoveries that may result from the investigation now in progress than the recall to Washington of John Hyde, statistician of the Department of Agriculture. There is not the slightest breath of suspicion against Mr. Hyde, according to Secretary of Agriculture Wilson, but it was thought best, in view of the growing seri-ousness and extent of the inquiry, that he be called back to the United States at once and remain on hand until the affair is set-

Col. Symons Decorated by China. The Department of State is informed that

Mr. de Strade to this city to act as charge d'affaires during his absence, and that until he arrives here Mr. C. Hauge, secretary of legation, will be in charge of its affairs. Mr. Strade was appointed before the separation of Norway, and is now en route to this country. the Chinese government has conferred the decoration of the Order of the Double Dragon on Col. Theodore W. Symons, corps of engineers, United States army, formerly superintendent of public buildings and grounds in this city, on account of courtesies extended to Prince Pu Lin on his visit to this country a few years ago. Under the Constitution Col. Symons cannot accept this decoration except by Congressional en-

Secretary Taft Goes to West Point. Secretary Taft left Washington this morning for West Point to attend the commencement exercises at the United States Military Academy tomorrow. He will attend a banquet given in honor Choate, formerly ambassador to Great Britain, tomorrow, and spend a few hours in this city next Wednesday on his way to Oxford, Ohio, to keep an engagement to deliver an address to the graduating class of Miami University.

Coming Trial of the Charleston. Orders have been given at the Navy Department for the official trial of the pro-

tected cruiser Charleston, built by the Newport News Shipbuilding Company, off the coast of New England on the 28th instant. After the vessel's screws are standardized she will be given a four hours' run in the open sea to determine her speed. The Charleston has a displacement of 9,700 tons and an indicated horse power of 21,000, and the fourteen runs in her main battery.

Weather.

Fair and slightly cooler tonight. Fair tomorrow. Light southwest to northwest winds.

PEACE MUCH NEARER

Russia Accepts Mr. Roose-

THE PRESIDENT TOLD

velt's Plan.

COUNT CASSINI CALLS AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

Reply Not Made Public-Plenipotentiaries Will, It is Said, Be Appointed-Place Undetermined.

Prospects of peace negotiations were brought measurably nearer today by the authoritative announcement that Ambassador Cassini, acting for the Russian government, had signified to President Roosevelt Russla's assent to the President's propositions. Accordingly Russia will appoint plenipotentiaries to meet the plenipotentiaries of Japan to discuss the question of peace

and then attempted to disembowel himself.
He was found dead by a keeper.
Czirilia was arrested on the night of December 26, after a fight with Paul E. Urban. The latter was beaten so badly that he died later at a hospital. Czirilla was committed to prison charged with murder. committed to prison charged with murder, his trial being set for today. It was further announced from the same authoritative source that the place of meeting of the peace plenipotentaries is at present being discussed.

These announcements were deemed of the highest importance in view of the rather pessimistic dispatches of the morning from European sources intimating that the Russians might appoint representatives, but might insist upon merely giving them pow-

er to inquire the Japanese terms. It was feared that under such condition the Japanese would refuse to treat and might not even agree to an armistice. It was intimated that Japan would insist upon dealing only with representatives of the Russian government invested with power sufficient to sign a treaty of peace.

Russia's Assent Announced.

It will be noted that today's announcement specifically states that Russia assents to the appointment of plenipotentiaries to meet the Japanese plenipotentiaries, A long cablegram was received from Mr. Meyer, the American ambassador at St. Petersburg, late Saturday night, which was not deciphered at that time. It was generally supposed to have been the Russian reply. The contents of this cablegram have not yet been made public, but it is believed that Mr. Meyer in his dispatch indicated the responsive form which he expected Russia's answer would take when formally

communicated. Count Cassini had a half hour's conference with the President today. At its close the count returned at once to his embassy, declining to discuss in any way the object of his visit. It is known, however, Ambassador Cassini called to express the Russian government's assent to the President's peace proposition, and to state that Russia would appoint plenipotentiaries to meet the plenipotentiaries of Japan to disof major, being commissioned as such Feb-ruary 21, 1903. During his career as an of-ficer he served in the 3d and 7th Regiments of artillery, and was a graduate of the armeet the plenipotentiaries of Japan to dis-cuss the question of peace. The place of meeting at present is being discussed.

At the Russian Embassy.

A statement was today made at the Russian embassy that the reply of the Russian government to the President's Identical note would undoubtedly be found to favor the appointment of plenipotentiaries to conduct peace negotiations with the same powers as are given to the plenipotentiaries of Japan. It was acknowledged that any other condition in the appointment of representatives of the two governments to ne-gotlate a peace would be out of the ques-

This statement did much to clear up the situation today, and it was generally be-lieved that the visit of Count Cassini, the Russian ambassador, to the President was for the purpose of laying at rest all doubt on that subject and assuring the President that so far as Russia is concerned peace negotiations, invited by him, will be begun and carried on in good faith. The ambas-sador had received a copy of his govern-ment's reply to President Roosevelt's note and carried it with him to the White

Must Be Given Full Power.

The reports to the effect that Russia would withhold from her representatives the full power to conduct a negotiation for peace at first caused a doubt to exist as to whether any progress had been made at all in the direction of peace. According to that report the representatives of Russia were to be authorized to receive Japan's proposals and transmit them to the Russian government for consideration. That, in the view of nearly every one interested in the peace negotia-tions, would amount to exactly nothing. The idea that Japan would consent to an wearing "mortar boards" and gowns, and armistice under such an agreement was

> The facts in relation to the conclusion of a peace between Japan and China were re-called in connection with this report as to the purposes of the Russian government. When the terms of peace between China and Japan were at first discussed China proposed on two occasions to appoint repre-sentatives with power to receive the terms of Japan and to transmit them to the imperial government. That proposition was not considered by Japan, and no negotia-tions were begun until the appointment of Li Hung Chang by China with full powers to conclude a peace.

If the Russian attitude should finally fall short of the appointment of plenipotentiaries Japan will, in the opinion of men thoroughly familiar with the course that that government has taken in the past, decline to declare an armistice and to state the conditions on which she would be willing to terminate the war.

A Crisis for Japan.

The Japanese recognize, it is declared in diplomattic circles, that the present is a most critical moment for them. What Macchivelia diplomacy may do in the conclusion of a peace is said to be beyond the power of any one to surmise and the course that is to be taken by Russia is being watched with unusual interest in all the legations

of greatest importance for Japan. In a short time the rainy season will come in Manchuria, rendering military operations difficult. It is certain, according to the view of many prominent diplomats, that Japan will not permit negotiations to drag along slowly for a long time, giving a prolonged breathing speel to Russia without very good prospects for an agreement.

Question of Armistice

dered during the night at a lonely spot While an armistice will be declared by along the road near Duryea, his head being Russia and Japan in the event of the appointment of peace plenipotentiaries, it There is no clue other than the knowlyet to be determined whether the agreeedge that three men threatened him sevment for an armistice will include an agreeeral days ago, and said they would make him pay for something he had done to them. The police are now looking for them. ment that all military preparations are to stop. It is quite generally believed that Japan will not consent to such a provision, but that she will want to push ahead in the strengthening of her military forces so that if the negotiations come to an unsatisfactory end she can continue her operations against Russia effectively.

This attitude on the part of the Japanese toward the neace negotiations, it is said.

treadiness to resume military operations.